



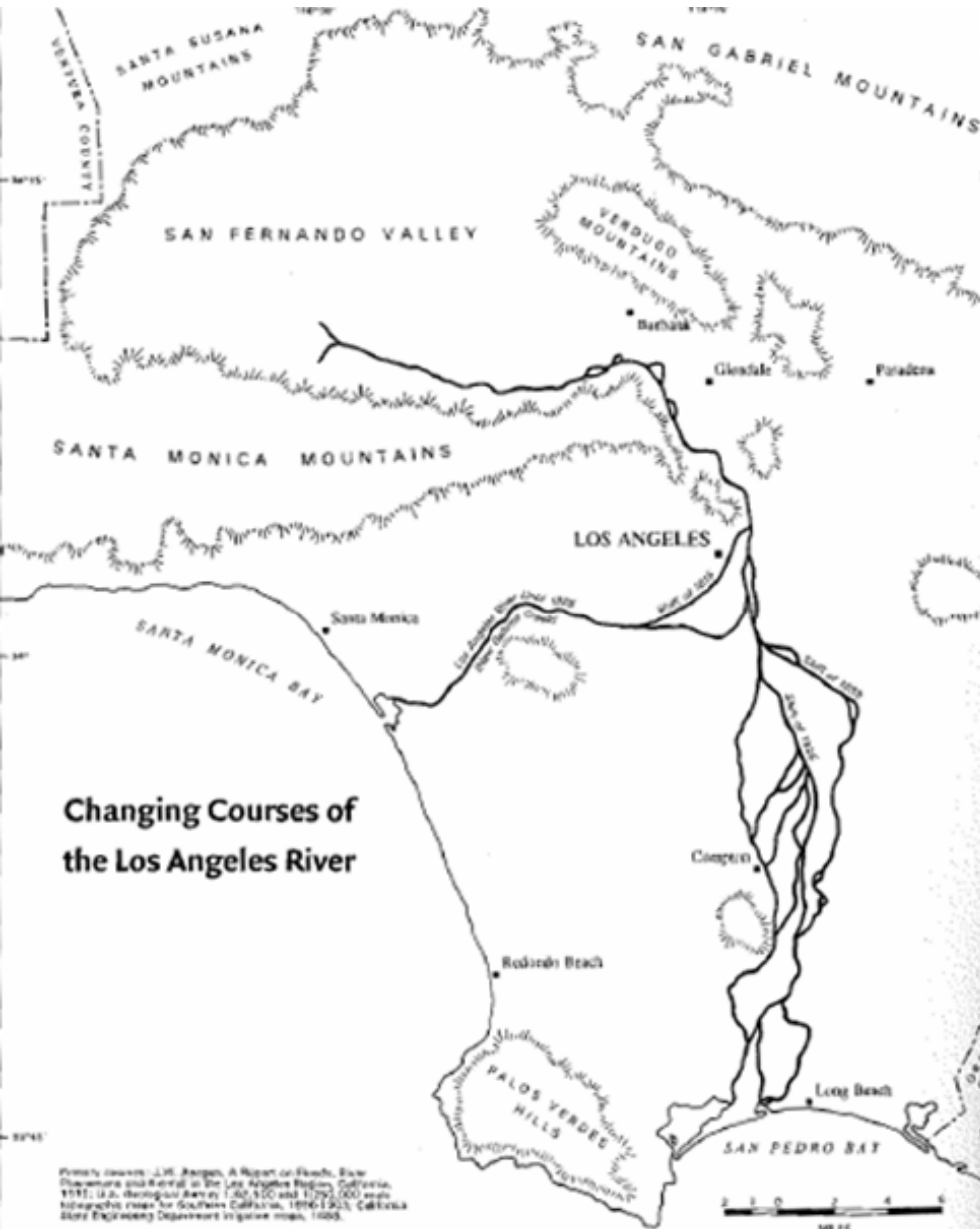




The pre-channelized Los Angeles River near the future Griffith Park.



# OUR PREDECESSORS PARTNERED TO CONTROL THE RIVER









## Los Angeles River 2010 Wildlife Habitat Types

### 2010 Legend

-  Barren
-  Coastal Shrub
-  Pasture
-  Riverine
-  Urban
-  Valley Foothill Riparian

## Los Angeles River 1896 Wildlife Habitat Types

### 1896 Legend

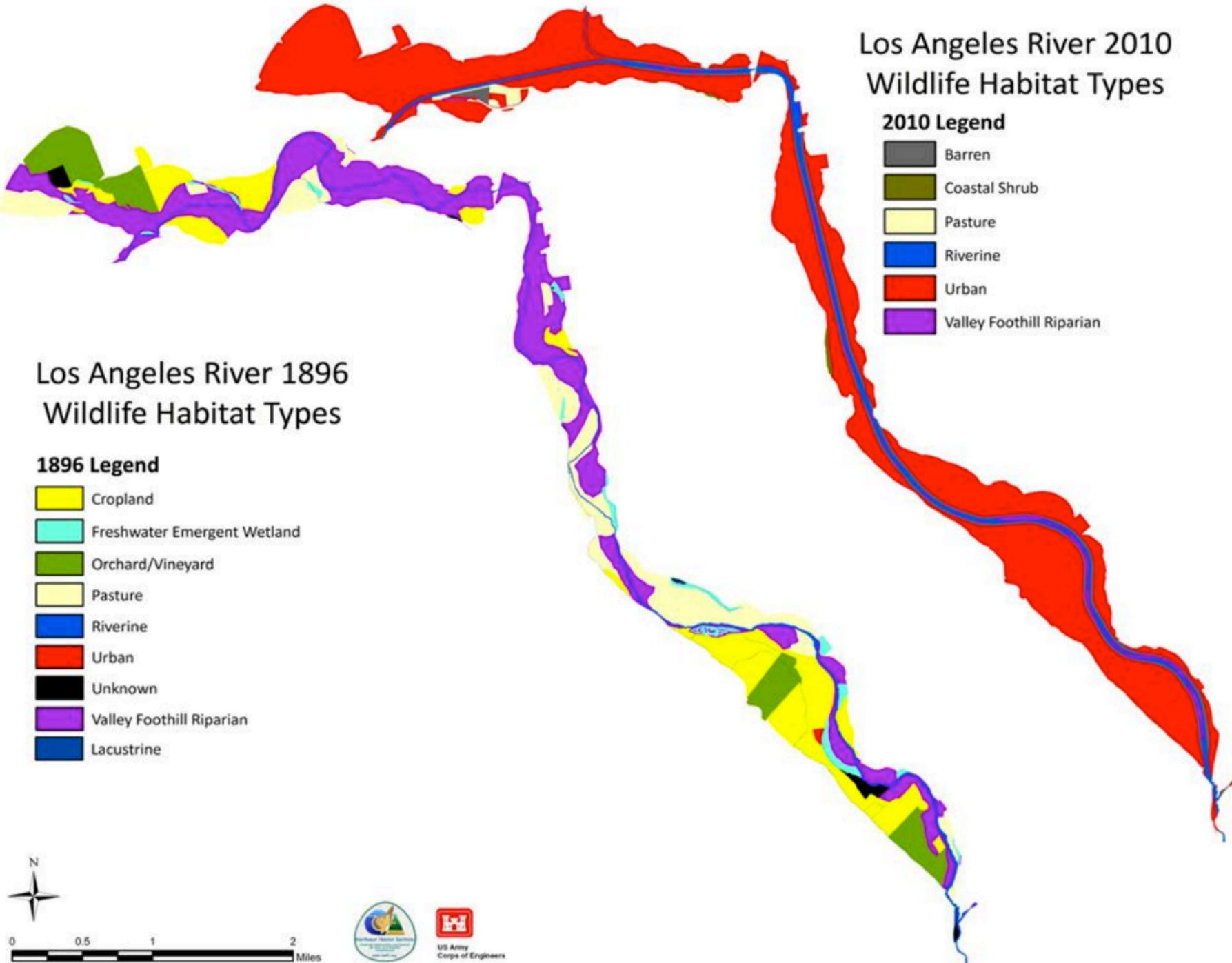
-  Cropland
-  Freshwater Emergent Wetland
-  Orchard/Vineyard
-  Pasture
-  Riverine
-  Urban
-  Unknown
-  Valley Foothill Riparian
-  Lacustrine



0 0.5 1 2 Miles



US Army  
Corps of Engineers





**There are no more frogs in  
Frogtown (Elysian Valley).**



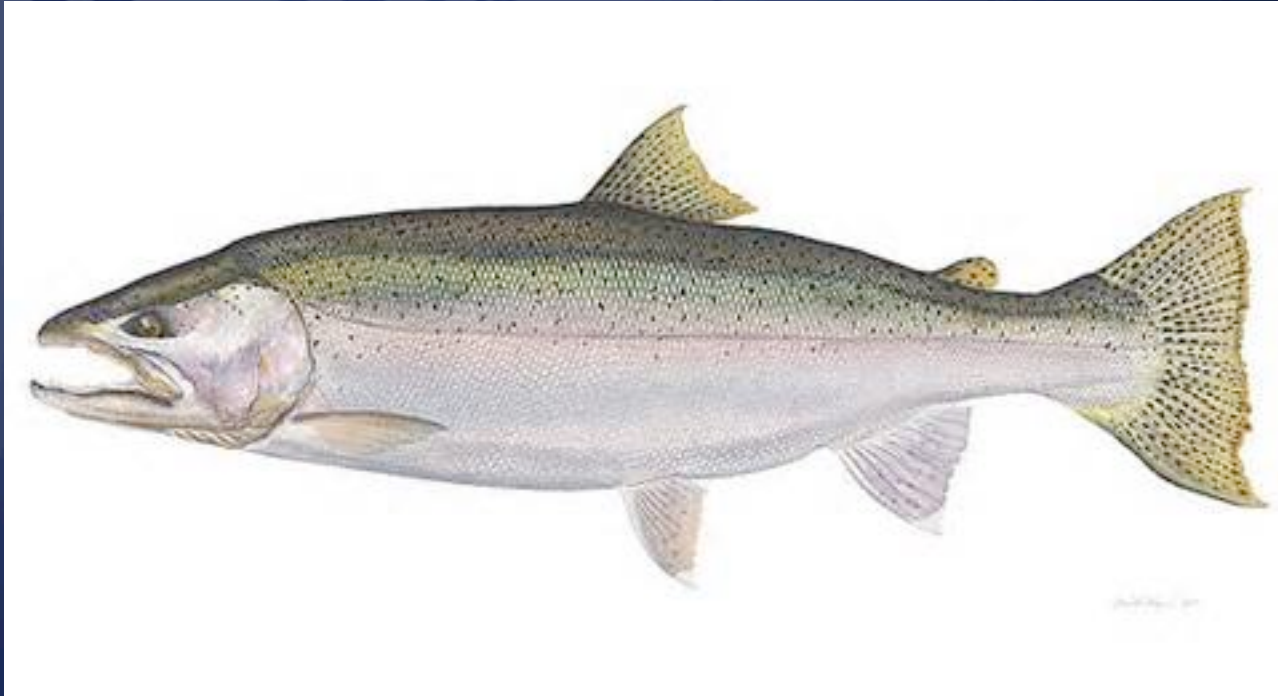


# P-22 is stuck in Griffith Park.

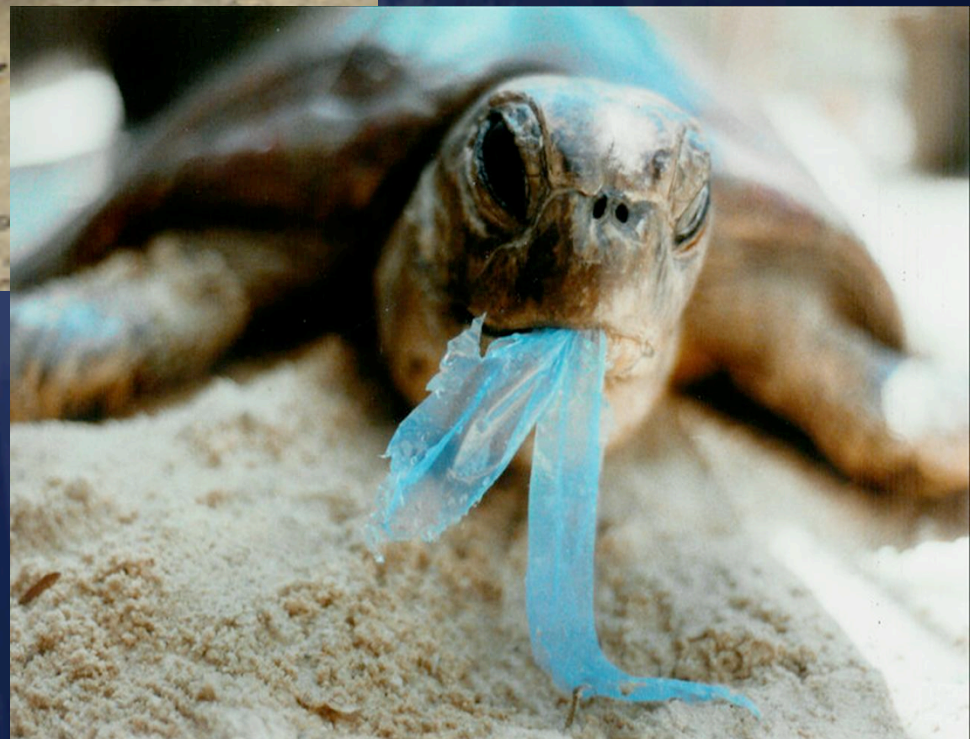




# The steelhead trout is gone.











LA River = 51 miles  
City of LA = First 32 miles



City's Plan = [www.lariver.org](http://www.lariver.org)  
Focus = 240+ multi-benefit projects

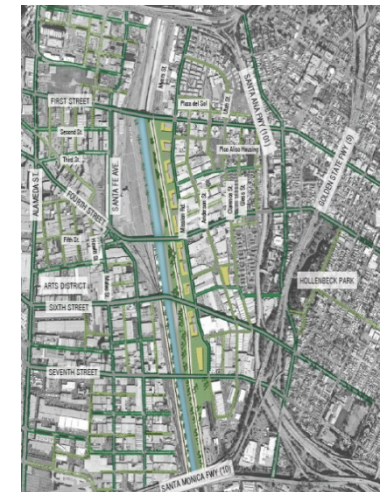
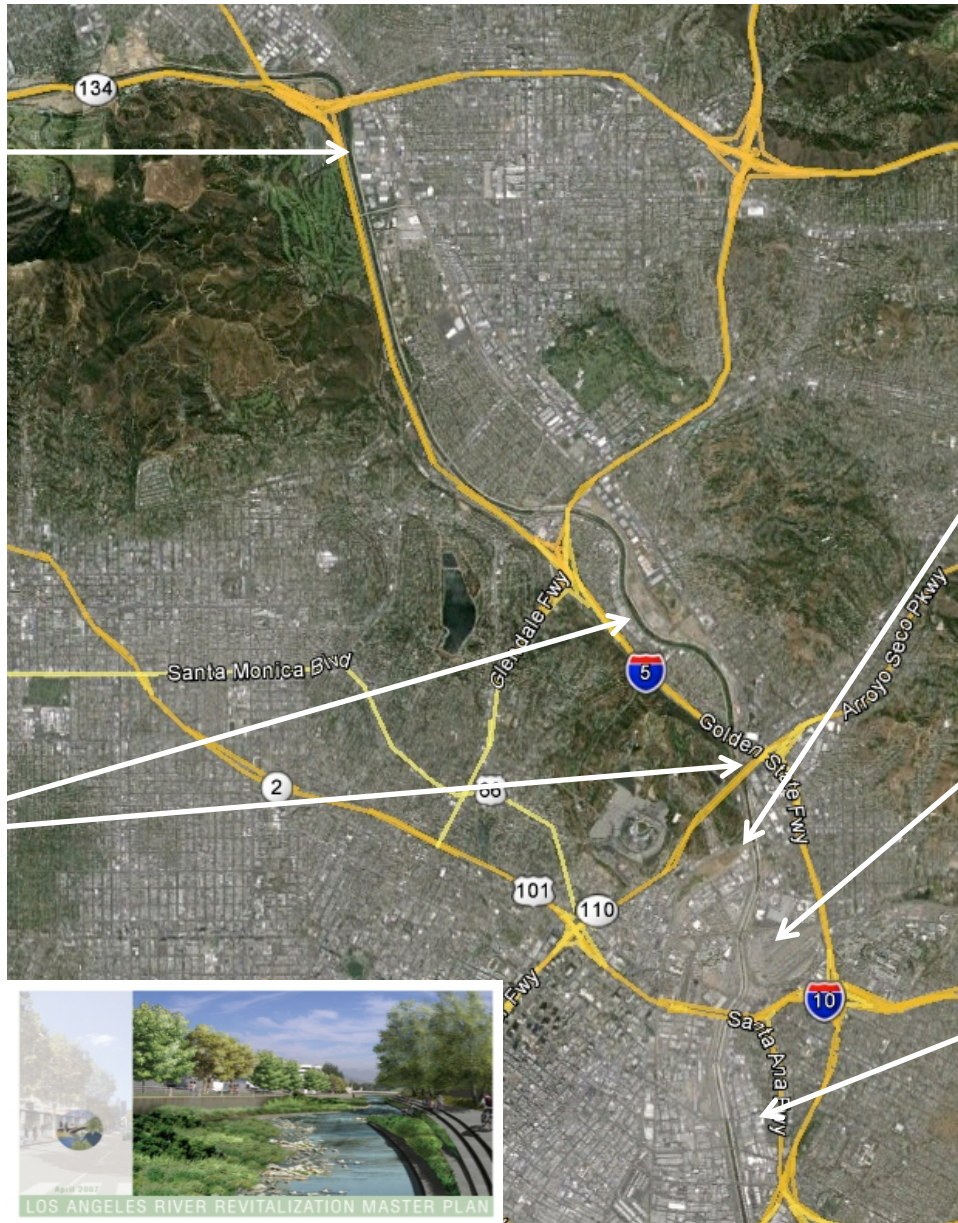
2007





# THE CITY'S 2007 LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN:

## Restore a Functional Riparian Ecosystem (p. 4-19)







THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN

OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

# Most Significant Change

*Acquisition of the 42-acre "G-2" rail yard parcel is critical to LA River revitalization.*



© 2008 Sanborn

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

© 2008 Google





THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN

OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

# Most Significant Change





## Recommended Plan

## Riparian Integration via Varied Ecological Reintroduction (RIVER)



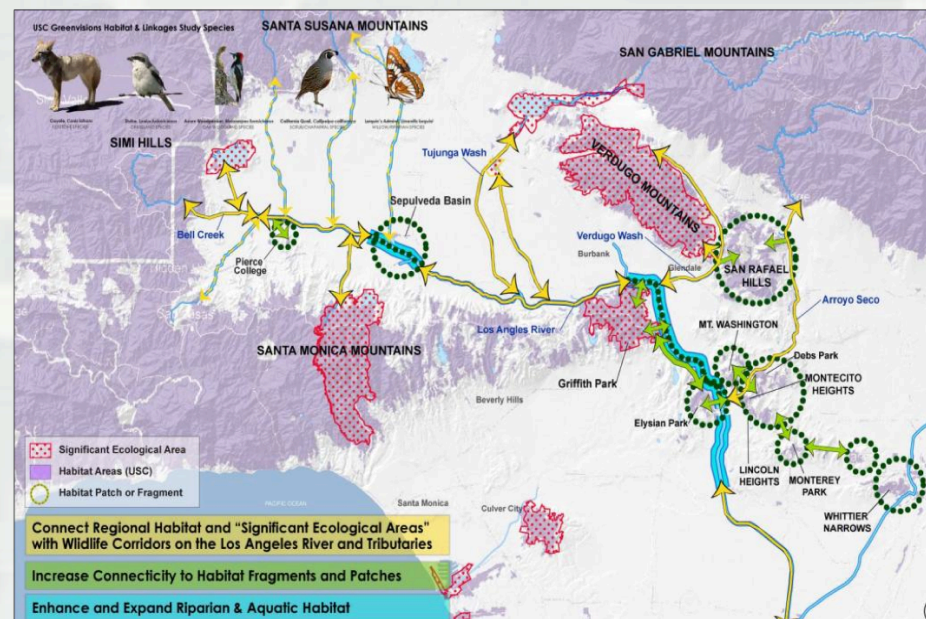
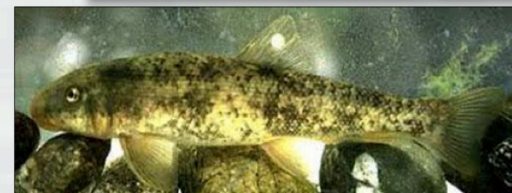




# Recommended Plan

Riparian Integration via Varied Ecological Reintroduction (RIVER)

- Restore lost aquatic, riparian & freshwater marsh habitat
- Improve diversity, quality & abundance of habitat
- Improve & restore dynamic ecological processes
- Restore substrate
- Improve habitat connectivity
- Increase floodplain area
- Improve sedimentation processes
- Improve infiltration & recharge
- Remove & manage invasive/exotic species
- Increase recreation opportunities





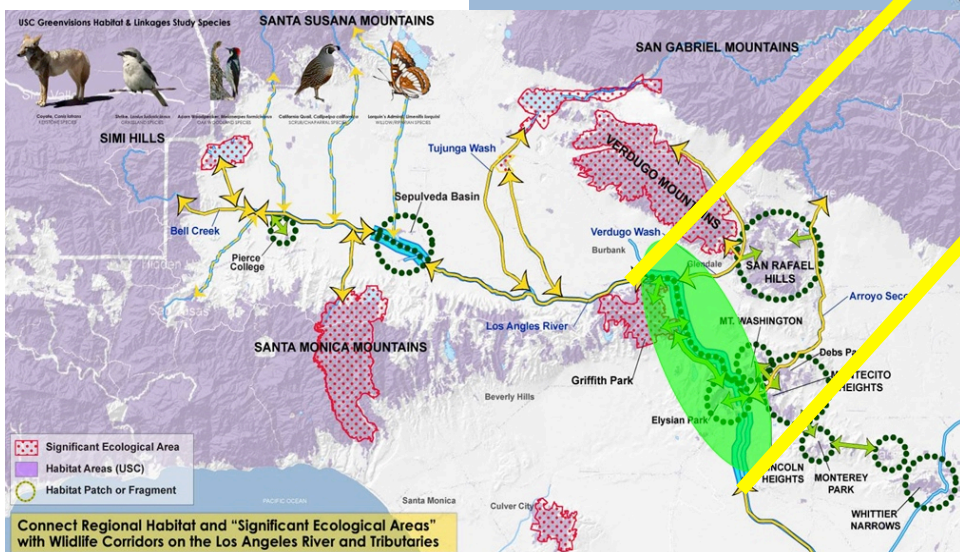
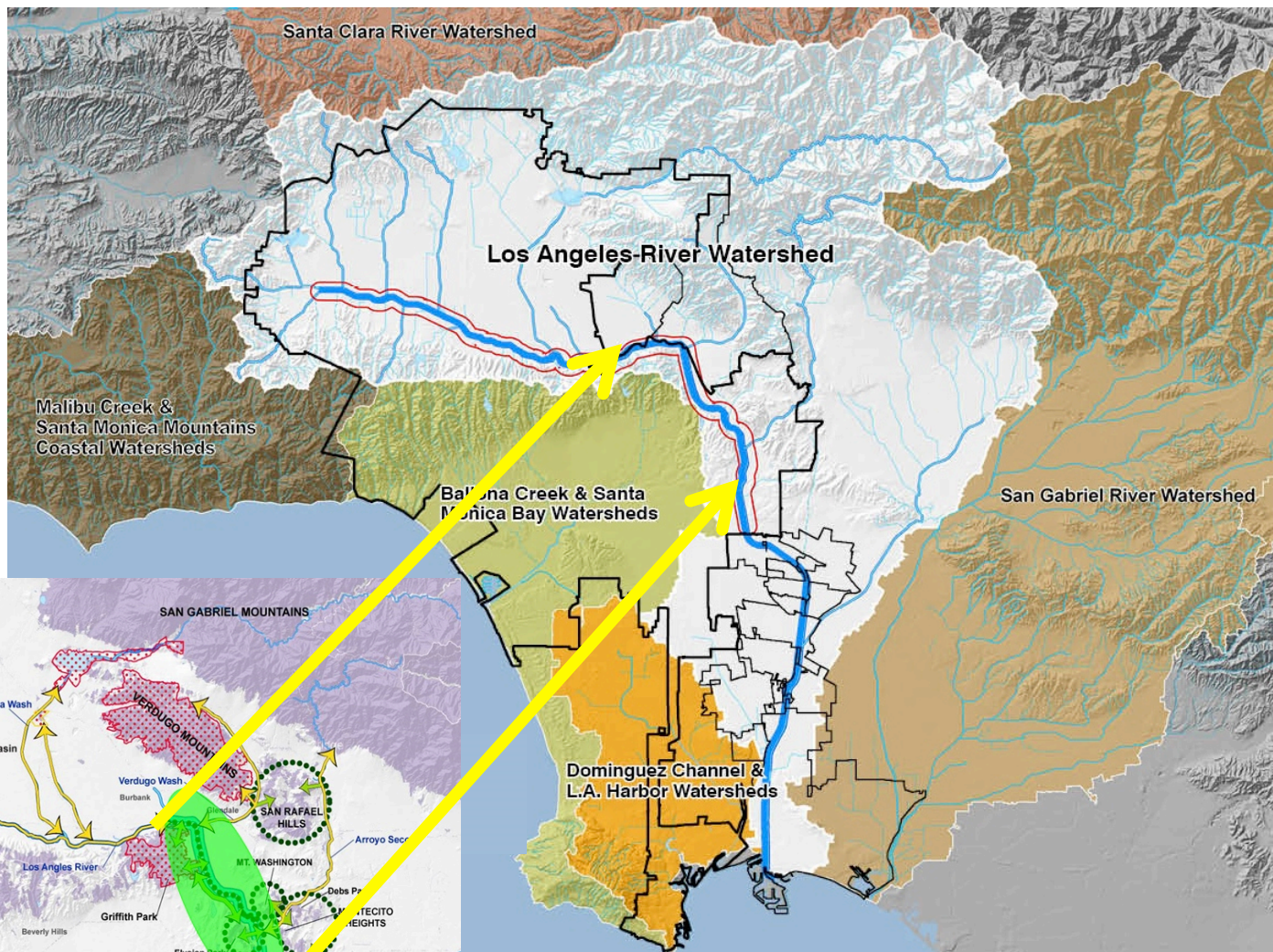


# CHALLENGE OF RESTORING A FRAGMENTED SYSTEM: CONNECTIVITY IS KEY



The Los Angeles River now drains an 870 square mile watershed.

The federal study's ecosystem restoration focus is on an 11-mile portion in the City.



This area includes existing in-channel riparian habitat, 2 major tributary confluences, 3 large State parks, and very large habitat areas (e.g., Griffith & Elysian Parks).



# Verdugo Wash Confluence with the LA River

Downtown LA

Elysian Hills

Griffith Park

I-5 Freeway

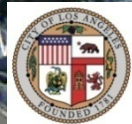
LA River

City of  
LA

San Fernando Road

Verdugo Wash

City of  
Glendale



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# Verdugo Wash Confluence with the LA River

Downtown LA

Elysian Hills

*In-channel-to-outerbank  
and upstream-to-downstream  
habitat connections are made*

City of  
Glendale

City of  
LA

Griffith Park

San Fernando Road

I-5 Freeway

LA River

134 Freeway

Verdugo Wash

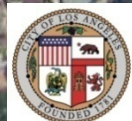
City of  
Glendale



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# LA River at Taylor Yard



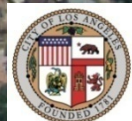
LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# LA River at Taylor Yard



*Draft Concept: July 2013*



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# Arroyo Seco Confluence with the LA River



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# Arroyo Seco Confluence with the LA River



*Draft Concept: July 2013*

LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# LA River at the Cornfields/LA State Historic Park



1<sup>st</sup> St. Viaduct  
César Chávez

LA City Hall

Downtown LA

Union Station

Chinatown

William Mead  
Public Housing

Piggyback Yard

LA State  
Historic Park  
(Cornfields)

Main Street

Spring Street

Broadway

Elysian  
Park/Hills

Albion  
Park  
(underway)

Lincoln  
Heights

Downey Pool  
(existing)



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



# LA River at the Cornfields/LA State Historic Park



Only in Alts. 16 & 20 does Piggyback Yard—  
connect to the river & foster upstream  
Connections for people and wildlife  
on both sides

LA City Hall

Downtown LA

Chinatown

LA State  
Historic Park  
(Cornfields)

William Mead  
Public Housing

Union Station

LA Noria/Waterwheel  
(Metabolic Studios)

Broadway

Spring Street

Main Street

1st St. Viaduct  
César Chávez

Albion  
Park  
(underway)

Lincoln  
Heights

Downey Pool  
(existing)

Connections  
for avian species

Elysian  
Park/Hills

Connections to river for people and wildlife

Draft Concept: 2013



# The Piggyback Group Conceptual Site Plan



125 acres  
East Side of River  
Downtown LA



**Friends  
of  
the  
Los Angeles  
River**

Pro Bono Design Collaborative

**C S A O**  
CHEE SALETTE ARCHITECTURE OFFICE

Pro Bono Technical Advisors

**MIA LEHRER**  
+associates  
landscape architecture

**Tt**  
**TETRA TECH**

**MICHAEL  
MALTZAN  
ARCHITECTURE**



**P E R K I N S  
+ W I L L**

<http://piggybackyard.org>





# LATC/Piggyback Yard



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION





# LATC/Piggyback Yard



LA RIVER ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION



*Draft Concept: July 2013*





# STRONG CASE, STRONG SUPPORT= STRONGER PARTNERS



## CASE

- Restoring ecosystem values in 1 of world's 5 Mediterranean-type regions (only in US)
- Creating habitat in the Pacific Flyway, an important destination for many avian species on the international migratory treaty path
- Stemming and reversing biodiversity loss in the California Floristic Province, one of Top 25 global biodiversity loss hotspots
- Strengthening critical connectivity to existing habitat areas in the Santa Monica and San Gabriel mountain ranges, Angeles National Forest and Verdugo Hills
- Coalition now calling for Los Angeles River to be included in the National Park Service Rim of the Valley Special Resource Area



## SUPPORT

- Community organizations held a rally in support.
- 8,500 people signed a petition in support.
- Friends of the Los Angeles River gave \$1 million.
- LA County is a cost-sharing partner.
- State is partner on lands/acquisition.
- The Nature Conservancy is starting restoration work in the project area.
- Top project of Urban Waters Federal Partnership LA Pilot







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**Office of LA Mayor Eric Garcetti**  
[www.lamayor.org](http://www.lamayor.org)  
[www.lariver.org](http://www.lariver.org)